NEWS FROM Legislator

Lou D'Amaro



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Animal Shelter Volunteer Recognized

Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro Names Jane Barbato Local Woman of Distinction



Legislator Lou D'Amaro honors Huntington Animal Shelter volunteer Jane Barbato, pictured here with her husband Paul, as District 17 Woman of Distinction for 2015

(HUNTINGTON STATION, NY... March 24, 2015) – Suffolk Legislator Lou D'Amaro (D-Huntington Station) has named Huntington Station resident Jane Barbato as the District 17 Woman of Distinction for 2015.

Under a resolution passed in 2002, every Suffolk County Legislator is annually authorized to honor a "Woman of Distinction" from their local district. Nominations are sought from community members and presentations are made in March in conjunction with Women's History Month.

For more than 18 years, Ms. Barbato has been tirelessly committed to the Town of Huntington Animal Shelter. She initially volunteered as a dog walker and now oversees the entire Dog Volunteer Program for the Shelter's not-for-profit all-volunteer League for Animal Protection of Huntington, Inc. (LAP). She also fundraises for LAP and serves on the Board of Directors. As the head of the LAP Dog Volunteer program, Ms. Barbato instructs others on how to train and walk the Shelter dogs to help ready them for adoption. She is one of the two LAP liaisons to the Town of Huntington, constantly working and communicating with Town officials about issues involving the Shelter.

Ms. Barbato was nominated for the award by fellow Huntington Animal Shelter volunteer Maryanne Hickey of Kings Park. In recommending her, Ms. Hickey wrote: "Aside from all that Jane does for the LAP Dog program, it is her endless hours at the shelter year round, consistently and in all weather, that is an amazing example of her pure dedication. She is bright, articulate, steadfast, good-humored and extremely responsible and deals professionally with others in all aspects."

Legislator D'Amaro recognized Ms. Barbato on March 17th in the Legislative Auditorium at the William H. Rogers Building in Hauppauge. Joining them were her husband Paul, Ms. Hickey, Huntington Animal Shelter Director Jerry Mosca and several other Shelter volunteers.

"With her impressive work ethic, stellar values and unmatched commitment to helping vulnerable animals, Jane Barbato inspires her other volunteers and the entire local community," said Legislator D'Amaro. "For almost two decades, she has been giving back and

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consistently setting an example for others. I am proud to honor Ms. Barbato as this year's Woman of Distinction."

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Suffolk County Legislator Lou D'Amaro represents the 17th Legislative District, which includes parts of Huntington, Huntington Station, South Huntington, Melville, West Hills, Cold Spring Hills, Dix Hills, Deer Park, North Babylon and West Babylon. He is chairman of the Budget & Finance committee and a member of the Education & Information Technology and Human Services committees of the Suffolk County Legislature.